

DATE:	March 18, 2004
TO:	Municipal Clerk
FROM:	Byron E. Johnson, C.P.M. Director of Purchasing x 4313
THRU:	Isabel F. Portillo Bid Clerk ext. 4038

Please place the following item on the **CONSENT** agenda for the Council Meeting of **MARCH 23, 2004.**

Resolution:

That the City Council of the City of El Paso declares its willingness to work with the County of El Paso in its acquisition of a site for a new parking garage, and that City staff be directed to negotiate with the County and the City Attorney's Office to prepare a Memorandum of Understanding for the County's possible acquisition of the City's property at 215 S. Campbell Street.

Contact person: Byron E. Johnson, Director o	f Purchasing at 541-4313.
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AGENDA FOR:	MARCH 23, 2004

X

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the County of El Paso has expressed a desire to acquire the City's property at 215 S. Campbell Street as a site for a new parking garage, and

WHEREAS, the City of El Paso is supportive of the County in its desire to acquire this site from the City of El Paso,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EL PASO:

That the City Council of the City of El Paso declares its willingness to work with the County of El Paso in its acquisition of a site for a new parking garage, and that City staff be directed to negotiate with the County and the City Attorney's Office to prepare a Memorandum of Understanding for the County's possible acquisition of the City's property at 215 S. Campbell Street.

ADOPTED THIS day of March, 2004.

	CITY OF EL PASO:
ATTEST:	Joe Wardy Mayor
Richarda Duffy Momsen City Clerk	
APPROVED AS TO FORM: CMMOS Cullen-Garney	APPROVED AS TO CONTENT:

Byron Johnson

Director of Purchasing

Theresa Cullen-Garney Deputy City Attorney

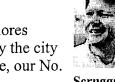
Borderland Tuesday, March 16, 2004

County picks site for parking garage

Charles K. Wilson El Paso Times

County commissioners pushed forward Monday with their efforts to build a new parking garage.

Just a month after asking architectural firm C.F. Jordan to design a parking garage on a site two blocks from the County Courthouse, commissioners went back to their favored plan -- a garage next to the current facility behind the courthouse.



Briones

"That's our choice right now," County Judge Dolores Briones said of the Overland Street site owned by the city of El Paso. "It's not a done deal, but a priority site, our No. 1 priority site."

The on-again, off-again talks with the city revived Monday as Commissioner Charles Scruggs argued for making the garage convenient for jurors. Also, a representative of the city told commissioners that the city expected positive environmental reports back this week on the site, meaning the Overland location could be ready to go in just a few months.

Adrian Ocegueda, an executive assistant for Mayor Joe Wardy, said the city remained ready to work out a deal that would let the county acquire the land in exchange for parking spaces.

The county agreed to a design-and-build contract with C.F. Jordan for \$10 million for a 1,000-space garage on Feb. 11. But by switching locations, the garage will likely top out at 750 spaces, county officials said.

"I don't want to talk about this garage anymore," Scruggs said as commissioners voted 4-0 for the change. Commissioner Miguel Teran did not vote because his son works for C.F. Jordan.

Charles K. Wilson may be reached at cwilson@elpasotimes.com; 546-6137.



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Borderland Monday, March 15, 2004

Parking garage may move closer to becoming reality

Charles K. Wilson El Paso Times

County commissioners today will try to take another step forward on their bumpy path toward building a new parking garage to serve the County Courthouse.

Commissioners will consider items on entering contract negotiations with C.F. Jordan, which was selected Feb. 11 to design and build a 1,000-space, \$10 million garage, and using C.F. Jordan as a site selection consultant.

Commissioner Dan Haggerty, who voted against hiring C.F. Jordan, said that the oft-debated issue would likely be sharply scrutinized again, but that the county needs to move forward.

Commissioners have looked for months for the right location. The county owns a half-block of land at 800 E. San Antonio, but has inquired into purchasing the Momsen Dunnigan Ryan Building to have the whole block for a garage.

"We don't have time to wait" on resolving the building purchase question, Haggerty said. "We'll take the half-block."

There has been some interest expressed by other commissioners to use the entire block for the garage, but Haggerty said the asking price may be more than the county wants to pay.

Commissioner Miguel Teran will not take part in the discussions because his son works for C.F. Jordan.

The commissioners will also hear an audit report on the county budget showing \$215.4 million in collections from assessments, fines, court costs and other areas for fiscal year 2003.

Charles K. Wilson may be reached at <u>cwilson@elpasotimes.com</u>; 546-6137.

Make plans

- What: Commissioners Court meeting.
- When, where: 9:30 a.m. today, Commissioners Court chambers.
- On TV: 7 p.m. Wednesday on cable Channel 15.
- **Information:** 546-2000.